

U. S. Application No. 10/518,886  
Attorney Docket No. 2002B096/2  
Reply to Final Rejection dated March 5, 2007  
Amendment/Response dated May 30, 2007

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**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A composition suitable for an air barrier consisting essentially of:  
an elastomer comprising  $C_4$  to  $C_7$  isoolefin derived units;  
from 2 to 20 phr of a polybutene processing oil; and  
from 2 to 20 phr of a plastomer, wherein the plastomer is a copolymer of ethylene  
derived units and  $C_3$  to  $C_{10}$   $\alpha$ -olefin derived units and has a density of less than  
 $0.915 \text{ g/cm}^3$ ;  
from 5 to 30 phr of one or more components selected from natural rubbers, polyisoprene  
rubber, styrene-butadiene rubber (SBR), polybutadiene rubber, isoprene-  
butadiene rubber (IBR), styrene-isoprene-butadiene rubber (SIBR), ethylene-  
propylene rubber, ethylene-propylene-diene rubber (EPDM), polysulfide, nitrile  
rubber, propylene oxide polymers, and mixtures thereof;  
wherein the composition has a brittleness value of less than  $-41.0^\circ\text{C}$ , a Shore A Hardness  
at  $25^\circ\text{C}$  of less than 55, an air permeability at  $65^\circ\text{C}$  of less than  $3.50 \times 10^{-8} \text{ cm}^3$ -  
 $\text{cm/cm}^2\text{-sec-atm}$  and an Adhesion to Carcass value of greater than  $4 \text{ N/mm}$ ; and  
wherein the composition comprises no more than 0.2 wt% of paraffinic, naphthenic and  
aromatic oils.
2. (Original) The composition of Claim 1, wherein the plastomer comprises ethylene derived units  
and from 10 wt% to 30 wt% of  $C_3$  to  $C_{10}$   $\alpha$ -olefin derived units.
3. (Original) The composition of Claim 1, wherein the plastomer comprises ethylene derived units  
and from 10 wt% to 30 wt% of units selected from 1-butene, 1-hexene and 1-octene derived  
units.
4. (Original) The composition of Claim 1, wherein the plastomer comprises ethylene derived units  
and from 10 wt% to 30 wt% of octene derived units.

U. S. Application No. 10/518,886  
Attorney Docket No. 2002B096/2  
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Amendment/Response dated May 30, 2007

5. (Previously presented) The composition of Claim 1, wherein the plastomer has a melt index of from 0.1 to 10 dg/min as measured by ASTM D 1238 at 190°C and 2.1 kg.
6. (Canceled)
7. (Original) The composition of Claim 1, wherein the plastomer is present in the composition from 10 to 15 phr.
8. (Canceled)
- 9-10. (Canceled)
11. (Original) The composition of Claim 1, also comprising a filler selected from carbon black, modified carbon black, silicates, clay, exfoliated clay, and mixtures thereof.
12. (Currently amended) The composition of Claim 1, ~~further consisting essentially of wherein the one or more components comprises selected from~~ natural rubbers, ~~polyisoprene rubber, styrene-butadiene rubber (SBR), polybutadiene rubber, isoprene-butadiene rubber (IIR), styrene-isoprene-butadiene rubber (SIBR), ethylene-propylene rubber, ethylene-propylene diene rubber (EPDM), polysulfide, nitrile rubber, propylene oxide polymers, and mixtures thereof.~~
13. (Canceled)
14. (Original) The composition of Claim 1, wherein the C<sub>4</sub> to C<sub>7</sub> isoolefin derived units are selected from isobutylene, isobutene, 2-methyl-1-butene, 3-methyl-1-butene, 2-methyl-2-butene, 1-butene, 2-butene, methyl vinyl ether, indene, vinyltrimethylsilane, hexene, and 4-methyl-1-pentene.
15. (Original) The composition of Claim 1, wherein the elastomer also comprises multiolefin derived units selected from isoprene, butadiene, 2,3-dimethyl-1,3-butadiene, myrcene, 6,6-dimethyl-fulvene, hexadiene, cyclopentadiene, and piperylene.

U. S. Application No. 10/518,886  
Attorney Docket No. 2002B096/2  
Reply to Final Rejection dated March 5, 2007  
Amendment/Response dated May 30, 2007

16. (Original) The composition of Claim 1, wherein the elastomer also comprises styrenic derived units selected from styrene, chlorostyrene, methoxystyrene, indene and indene derivatives,  $\alpha$ -methylstyrene, *o*-methylstyrene, *m*-methylstyrene, and *p*-methylstyrene, and *p*-tert-butylstyrene.
17. (Original) The composition of Claim 1, wherein the elastomer is halogenated.
18. (Original) The composition of Claim 1, also comprising a curative selected from sulfur, sulfur-based compounds, metal oxides, metal oxide complexes, fatty acids, peroxides, diamines, and mixtures thereof.
- 19-22. (Canceled)
23. (Original) An article selected from tire curing bladders, innerliners, tire innertubes, and air sleeves made from the composition of Claim 1.
24. (Currently amended) A composition suitable for an air barrier consisting essentially of:  
polybutene processing oil;  
an elastomer comprising  $C_4$  to  $C_7$  isoolefin derived units; and  
a plastomer, wherein the plastomer is a copolymer of ethylene derived units and from 10 wt% to 30 wt% of  $C_3$  to  $C_{10}$   $\alpha$ -olefin derived units and has a density of less than 0.915 g/cm<sup>3</sup>.  
wherein the composition has a brittleness value of less than -41.0°C, a Shore A Hardness at 25°C of less than 50 and an Adhesion to Carcass value of greater than 4 N/mm.
25. (Canceled)
26. (Original) The composition of Claim 24, wherein the plastomer comprises ethylene derived units and from 10 wt% to 30 wt% of units selected from 1-butene, 1-hexene and 1-octene derived units.

U. S. Application No. 10/518,886  
Attorney Docket No. 2002B096/2  
Reply to Final Rejection dated March 5, 2007  
Amendment/Response dated May 30, 2007

27. (Original) The composition of Claim 24, wherein the plastomer comprises ethylene derived units and from 10 wt% to 30 wt% of octene derived units.
28. (Previously presented) The composition of Claim 24, wherein the plastomer has a melt index of from 0.1 to 10 dg/min as measured by ASTM D 1238 at 190°C and 2.1 kg.
29. (Original) The composition of Claim 24, wherein the plastomer is present in the composition from 2 to 20 phr.
30. (Original) The composition of Claim 24, wherein the plastomer is present in the composition from 3 to 10 phr.
31. (Original) The composition of Claim 24, wherein the polybutene processing oil has a number average molecular weight of from 900 to 8000.
32. (Original) The composition of Claim 24, wherein the polybutene processing oil is present from 2 to 20 phr.
33. (Previously presented) The composition of Claim 24, also consisting essentially of a filler selected from carbon black, modified carbon black, silicates, clay, exfoliated clay, and mixtures thereof.
34. (Canceled)
35. (Previously presented) The composition of Claim 24, further consisting essentially of one or more components selected from natural rubbers, polyisoprene rubber, styrene-butadiene rubber (SBR), polybutadiene rubber, isoprene-butadiene rubber (IBR), styrene-isoprene-butadiene rubber (SIBR), ethylene-propylene rubber, ethylene-propylene-diene rubber (EPDM), polysulfide, nitrile rubber, propylene oxide polymers, and mixtures thereof.

U. S. Application No. 10/518,886  
Attorney Docket No. 2002B096/2  
Reply to Final Rejection dated March 5, 2007  
Amendment/Response dated May 30, 2007

36. (Previously presented) The composition of Claim 24, further consisting essentially of from 5 to 50 phr of one or more components selected from natural rubbers, polyisoprene rubber, styrene-butadiene rubber (SBR), polybutadiene rubber, isoprene-butadiene rubber (IBR), styrene-isoprene-butadiene rubber (SIBR), ethylene-propylene rubber, ethylene-propylene-diene rubber (EPDM), polysulfide, nitrile rubber, propylene oxide polymers, and mixtures thereof.
37. (Original) The composition of Claim 24, wherein the C<sub>4</sub> to C<sub>7</sub> isoolefin derived units are selected from isobutylene, isobutene, 2-methyl-1-butene, 3-methyl-1-butene, 2-methyl-2-butene, 1-butene, 2-butene, methyl vinyl ether, indene, vinyltrimethylsilane, hexene, and 4-methyl-1-pentene.
38. (Original) The composition of Claim 24, wherein the elastomer also comprises multiolefin derived units selected from isoprene, butadiene, 2,3-dimethyl-1,3-butadiene, myrcene, 6,6-dimethyl-fulvene, hexadiene, cyclopentadiene, and piperylene.
39. (Original) The composition of Claim 24, wherein the elastomer also comprises styrenic derived units selected from styrene, chlorostyrene, methoxystyrene, indene and indene derivatives,  $\alpha$ -methylstyrene, *o*-methylstyrene, *m*-methylstyrene, and *p*-methylstyrene, and *p*-tert-butylstyrene.
40. (Original) The composition of Claim 24, wherein the elastomer is halogenated.
41. (Previously presented) The composition of Claim 24, also consisting essentially of a curative selected from sulfur, sulfur-based compounds, metal oxides, metal oxide complexes, fatty acids, peroxides, diamines, and mixtures thereof.
- 42-43. (Canceled)
44. (Previously presented) The composition of Claim 24, wherein the composition has a aged Shore A Hardness at 25°C of less than 55.

U. S. Application No. 10/518,886  
Attorney Docket No. 2002B096/2  
Reply to Final Rejection dated March 5, 2007  
Amendment/Response dated May 30, 2007

45. (Previously presented) The composition of Claim 24, wherein the composition has an air permeability at 65°C of less than  $3.50 \times 10^{-8} \text{ cm}^3\text{-cm/cm}^2\text{-sec-atm}$ .
46. (Canceled)
47. (Original) An article selected from tire curing bladders, innerliners, tire innertubes, and air sleeves made from the composition of Claim 24.
48. (Currently amended) A composition suitable for an air barrier comprising  
from 5 to 25 phr polybutene processing oil;  
halogenated star-branched butyl rubber;  
from 5 to 25 phr natural rubber; and  
from 5 to 25 phr of a plastomer, wherein the plastomer is a copolymer of ethylene derived units and  $C_3$  to  $C_{10}$   $\alpha$ -olefin derived units and has a density of less than  $0.915 \text{ g/cm}^3$ ; and wherein the composition has a Brittleness value of less than  $-41.0^\circ\text{C}$ , a Shore A Hardness at  $25^\circ\text{C}$  of less than 50 and an Adhesion to Carcass value of greater than 4 N/mm.
49. (Original) The composition of Claim 48, wherein the polybutene processing oil has a number average molecular weight of from 900 to 3000.
50. (Original) An article selected from tire curing bladders, innerliners, tire innertubes, and air sleeves made from the composition of Claim 48.
51. (Previously presented) The composition of Claim 1, wherein the elastomer is selected from poly(isobutylene-co-p-methylstyrene), halogenated poly(isobutylene-co-p-methylstyrene), poly(isobutylene-co-cyclopentadiene), halogenated poly(isobutylene-co-cyclopentadiene) and mixtures thereof.
52. (Previously presented) The composition of Claim 24, wherein the elastomer is selected from poly(isobutylene-co-p-methylstyrene), halogenated poly(isobutylene-co-p-methylstyrene),

U. S. Application No. 10/518,886  
Attorney Docket No. 2002B096/2  
Reply to Final Rejection dated March 5, 2007  
Amendment/Response dated May 30, 2007

poly(isobutylene-*co*-cyclopentadiene), halogenated poly(isobutylene-*co*-cyclopentadiene) and mixtures thereof.